

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In the Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Peterson |) | |
| |) | |
| Serial No. |) | EXPRESS MAIL NO: |
| |) | EL 849 001 290 US |
| Filed: Herewith |) | |
| |) | DATE: <u>September 12, 2003</u> |
| For: System and Method for Determining |) | |
| the Position of a Flexible Instrument Used in |) | |
| a Tracking System |) | |
| |) | |
| Examiner: Not yet assigned |) | |
| Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that the following reference(s) be considered in the examination of the above-identified patent application:

USP 6,109,270

The above-identified reference(s) are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies are also enclosed herewith.

This submission, is in no way intended as an admission that the above-cited references constitute prior art under any subsection of 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicant expressly retains the

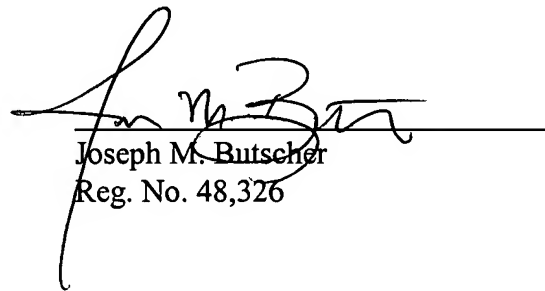
right to take any actions necessary to remove the above-cited references from the available prior art.

Consideration of the above-identified references in the examination of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due because it is believed that this statement and enclosures are being filed before the first Office Action on the merits has been mailed by the PTO. The basis of this belief is that no Office Action on the merits appears to have been received by the undersigned to date. Please charge any fees due in connection with this statement to Deposit Account 50-2403.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 12, 2003



Joseph M. Butscher
Reg. No. 48,326

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| Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-83) | | | | | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 134687NV (MHM 15085US01) | SERIAL NO. |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | | | APPLICANT: Peterson | | | |
| | | | | | | FILING DATE Herewith | GROUP ART UNIT: | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | | |
| | | 6,109,270 | 8/29/00 | Mah et al. | | | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|--|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | | | | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| | AA | |
| | BB | |
| | CC | |
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| EXAMINER _____ DATE CONSIDERED _____ | | |
| *EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | |